

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Municipalities (AS 37.05.315)****Grant Recipient: Cordova****Federal Tax ID: 92-6000138****Project Title:****Project Type: New Construction and Land Acquisition**

Cordova - Community Center Construction Completion

State Funding Requested: \$6,515,788
One-Time Need**House District: 35 / R****Brief Project Description:**

Completion of construction of the Cordova Community Center.

Funding Plan:

Total Project Cost:	\$25,500,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$18,984,212)
FY2015 State Funding Request:	<u>(\$6,515,788)</u>
Project Deficit:	\$0

Funding Details:

\$200,000 Economic Development Administration
\$300,000 Federal Financial Assistance Grant
\$994,000 FY03 Dept. of Interior Appropriations Bill
\$994,100 FY04 Veterans Administration Appropriations Bill
\$25,00 FY05 State Appropriation
\$1,000,000 FY06 Legislative Grant
\$7,000,000 EVOS Trustee Council
\$1,000,000 Legislative Appropriation
\$2,000,000 SB119 Library Construction Grant
\$2,500,000 Capital Budget
\$1,725,000 City of Cordova
\$24,112 Local contributions

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

After more than a decade of planning, investment, property acquisition and development and construction, the Cordova Center is a mere eighteen months from opening its doors. The City of Cordova stands "shovel ready" to fulfill the remaining construction tasks, with all designs, architectural plans and administrative requirements done and in place.

Upon approval of this request, Cordova will be enabled to become one of Prince William Sound's and south-central Alaska's primary economic engines. This essential, highly functional 34,000 square-foot facility, strategically located in the heart of the Cordova business district, will be the transformational catalyst for economic, social and cultural services to the community residents, visitors and the PWS region. The Cordova Center, with its business and conference area, theater, museum, library, and administrative offices is an absolutely critical component in the city's economic and administrative tool-kit. The Center will stimulate economic activity and diversification with a consolidated, centralized, state-of-the-art facility that generates year-round business and touristic activities while promoting cultural awareness and integration and

community pride. Every study and analysis made during the decade-plus efforts to complete the Cordova Center highlight the crucial role it has towards improving the quality of life for residents and addressing the seasonal population fluctuations Cordova experiences. Strongly supported by the entire business and tourism community, schools, our own Native Village of Eyak, and the fishing industry, the City, its leadership and its citizens are thoroughly committed towards completing and sustaining the long term operation of this gem on Prince William Sound.

Cordova's Municipal Center, as well as the Cordova Museum and Library are housed two 40+ years old "Butler style" buildings that are years beyond their life expectancy to house its basic public services. These structures are virtually dilapidated, non ADA compliant, and no longer economically viable. The heating, water and electrical units are worn out and tremendously expensive to operate. After more than forty-years of Alaskan wind, rain and snow, the roofs of both facilities are held together with tar; constantly leaking onto invaluable historical displays and artifacts, computers, library holdings, and crucial administrative files of the city. Replacing these unserviceable facilities will also help "kick-start" additional economic activity on Main Street and at the harbor area by allowing the City of Cordova to repurpose these parcels

The McDowell Group of Juneau, an Alaskan analytical and consulting organization, outlined that the projected return investment of the Cordova Center will generate over \$500,000 annually. The Cordova Center will repay with interest every dime invested to the community, region and state, while generating a financial "trickle down" that is difficult to accurately measure.

Cordova and Cordovans are excited and ready to take this last step forward towards completing this long awaited project within a relatively few months. With assistance from our State leadership, the Cordova Center will finish a community inspired/community visioned multi-use building that will serve our city and the Prince William Sound region far into the 21st Century. A truly resilient community, Cordova has survived loss of railroads and mines, disastrous fires, devastating earthquakes, and man-made oil spills. We have clearly demonstrated the personal, organizational and professional resolve to continually move this transformational project forward, but state assistance is needed to finish by 2015.

Project Timeline:

Upon approval of funding requested, project construction will be completed in 18 months.

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

City of Cordova

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

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Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Photo 1: The Cordova Center anchors the business district but leads gracefully and efficiently to the waterfront and busy harbor district.



Photo 2: City Hall was constructed in 1971 and is a Butler Building.



Photo 3: The Centennial Building houses the library, museum and serves as a local meeting venue for all public meetings including the City Council and Commissions.

